

Names (max. 2): _____

Title: _____ Project #: _____

CMed 20/30

AUDIO – Radio Drama

Description

This project requires you with a crew (maximum 2 people) to produce a 3-minute radio drama. Your radio drama must include an original script as well as sound effects and background music. Many radio dramas can be found and listened to online. An example of a radio drama is the infamous War of the Worlds by Orson Welles.

Format

A radio drama is a dramatized, purely acoustic performance, broadcast on radio. With no visual component, radio drama depends on dialogue, music and sound effects to help the listener imagine the characters and story: “It is auditory in the physical dimension but equally powerful as a visual force in the psychological dimension.”

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radio_drama

You need to start with an original story and script. Although your spelling will not be scored, strong language skills are an asset for the writing portion of this project. Dramas can range in genre anywhere from humorous and light-hearted to serious or frightening. In any case, it must be kept school-appropriate. For this course, it does not need to be broadcast but still depends completely on quality audio recordings. The radio drama must begin with an introduction of the title and the author. Appropriately dramatic music and sound effects must be incorporated throughout the drama in addition to the narration. At the end, it needs to conclude with the title and production company name.

Pre-Production Elements

Create a brief synopsis – a paragraph or two summarizing the story, target audience and genre. Once the synopsis is complete, create the cast of characters.

Based on your synopsis, develop a script that will create a minimum 3-minute drama.

The script must be typed out in a format similar to the given sample script. Include details such as title, copyright year, author, production company and duration at the beginning. Throughout the script, note any music or sound effects.

Rehearse, rehearse and then rehearse some more. Yes, you will be able to have the script in front of you since this is audio only but we should NOT hear papers rustling or hesitation in voices. We should hear tone, inflection and feeling in the lines read.

Also, note the items in the scoring table below.

Scoring (30% - 40%)

	Hard copy	E-file
<input type="checkbox"/> Short synopsis – typed and printed	✓	X
<input type="checkbox"/> Script, in proper format, includes introduction and conclusion and appropriate details	✓	X

Production Elements

Complete the recording with minimal background noise and/or disturbances. This may require a number of sessions. Remember to leave pauses in the conversations wherever sound effects will be added.

Scoring (20% - 30%)

	Hard copy	E-file
<input type="checkbox"/> Audio recording	X	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sufficient duration (min. 3 minutes) without long unnecessary pauses, time used wisely, concise • voices are clear with proper pronunciations, no interference of background noises • free of static, echo, pops, cuts; recorded at reasonable level (not too loud or quiet) • recorded voices are at a consistent level throughout 		

Post-Production Elements

Using available audio software, make cuts and edits where necessary. Adjust levels where needed and remove any static, pops, etc. as much as possible.

Add music and sound effects in at this point where required and make any necessary adjustments to the levels.

Get a Peer Review and be prepared to make some last-minute changes. Export the final production as an **mp3** file. Complete a Project Reflection form.

Scoring (30% - 50%)

	Hard copy	E-file
<input type="checkbox"/> Peer Review	X	✓
<input type="checkbox"/> Audio file saved to proper folder as an mp3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music and sound effects added effectively • Audio levels are normalized and distinguishable 	X	✓
<input type="checkbox"/> Project Reflection form	X	✓
<input type="checkbox"/> Neatly organized duotang with all required papers	✓	X

SUMMARY

A single element, done well, can be outstanding, however, done poorly, can bring down the entire feel of the entire production. Weight each category accordingly. Total must equal 100.

Category	Weight Range	Choose a weighting	Score
Pre-production	30% to 40%		
Production	20% to 30%		
Post-production	30% to 50%		
TOTAL		100%	